

## Preparing for your Online Lesson

Although this is probably a new experience for many of us, it can work. We can work together to have a great interactive and enjoyable musical experience. The lessons will be designed to be engaging and educational at all levels.

A few suggestions to get started. First rule is do what works best for you and your family. Try to make a comfortable space that you can set up and play your instrument with little distraction. If you are a younger student, leave room for a parent or family member to sit in on the lesson if you would like. Leave younger siblings and pets out of the lesson, let them wait for the performance.

**SET UP YOUR SPACE** – *a few suggestions for comfort and maximum playing experience.*

- A sturdy and steady chair. One without wheels or arms is best (avoid plush furniture, like a couch or bed)
- A music stand or something to prop up your music at a good level for easy reading. (A folding music stand works well. If without a music stand, tabletops can work with something like a clarinet case to hold your music)
- Plenty of good lighting. A well-lit room for easy reading and better video communication. A light on your music, in the room and on yourself.

**EQUIPMENT IDEAS** – *a few suggestions for your set up.*

- A desk top computer or laptop will allow for better viewing. (the larger the screen the better)
- A video camera on your computer or an external camera connected.
- Microphone - built in works fine. An external add on mic may pick up better. (for good sound quality and pick up, a simple usb plug in/ desk top mic can help)
- Internet connection (with little interruption) A computer hooked directly to the internet is best. Wi-Fi connection and email is necessary for set up of zoom session.
- Don't forget to warm up, sound check and video check before each lesson. (then when there ARE problems, we'll figure it out)
- Phone/text ready if problems arise.

**PRACTICE SCHEDULE** – *off lesson time is a good time to prepare.*

- A time tracker is useful in keeping a practice schedule written down.
- A consistent schedule daily is best. A good routine will help with retention and consistency.
- Suggested amounts of time for practice will be made with each student's individual curriculum.
- Preparing for a lesson should include, set up and warm up time prior the lesson day and practice of the material assigned throughout the week.

**LESSON CHECKLIST**

- Instrument, Music, Video and Audio set up, Wi-Fi/Email connection.
- Payment schedule in good standing.
- Good reed and Good attitude.